

EXHIBIT 1

Style and Substance

Those lazy, hozy days of August. Time to work out the kinks in that
 flower tan—or time to get a leg up on the true meaning of art?
 you're in town, check out an insider's source for furniture and textile
 that will knock your socks off. —CHIP CORDELL

PARTY CRASHER FIRST-AID KIT

For the question "what is art?" esoteric chitchat about design can
 use a dinner party faster than a deflated soufflé. Enter author John
 Skett, whose new design primer *Toothpicks & Logos* (Oxford
 University Press; \$24) can turn that beat around with an entertaining
 sh course on the value of design in our everyday life. You'll be the
 le of the next ball if you grasp the tongue-twister: "design is to
 sign a design to produce a design," a jumble of definitions for the
 same word that, he says, perennially complicates
 our understanding of exactly what design is. He
 leaves nary a stone unturned as he dashes
 through our collective cupboards, citing
 household items with and without dignity, such as
 Philippe Starck's famous tripod juicer for Alessi
 ("pricy inefficiency") and the OXO Goodgrips "Y"
 peeler (two thumbs up). Among the fun facts you
 will learn is that the phonetic pronunciation of
 Coca-Cola is "bite the wax tadpole" in Chinese. Enough said.
 Available at BookHampton, 20 Main Street, East Hampton, 324-4939.

LOW-STOPPING CAKE TOPPERS

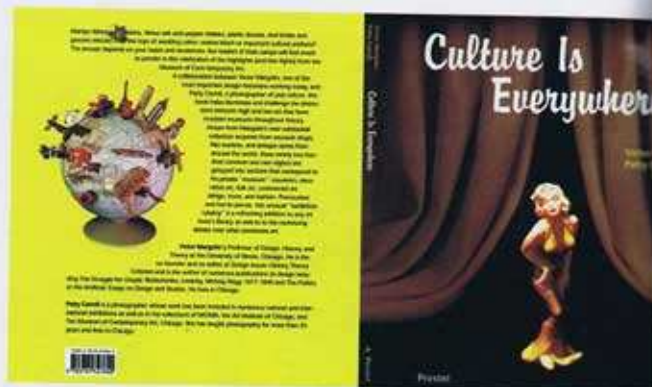
your fingers do the walking through the lavishly illustrated
Culture Is Everywhere (Prestel; \$25) and languish in author Victor
 Golin's frothy kitschfest pictorial of Marilyn Monroe statuettes,
 tic Jesuses, and wedding-cake toppers. They, along with titty egg
 s and Tyrolean thermometers, are highlights from the Museum of
 "ntemporary" Art in Chicago, and they, he opines, are not to be
 red as an art form. "We need to rescue these objects from their
 eption as cheap artifacts," he says, "and re-present them in a
 ext where their resonance can enhance our sense of what it
 ns to be human." This book may very well expand the heated
 ite over low and high art, and fan the flames among those who
 t have proper appreciation for quilted Elvis toaster-cozys and
 cess Diana snow domes. The accompanying photographs are by
 culture photographer Patty Carroll. Available at BookHampton, 20
 Street, East Hampton, 324-4939.

Recycle-chic at
 20 Van Dam.



ZEN AND NOW

Stephen Szepanek and Andre Joyau's neighbors in industrial
 Greenpoint, Brooklyn have stopped wondering about the black
 Lincoln Town Cars that deliver a steady flow of architects, textile
 collectors, and Manolo-clad interior designers to their block. The
 hot destination: 20 Van Dam, an insider's secret showroom/atelier
 where Joyau's line of furniture (we call it woodsy couture) blends
 with Szepanek's intricate patchwork textile artworks (we call it
 breathtaking). Both craftsmen, whose clients include Donna Karan,
 Takashimaya, and interior designer Daniel Romualdez, employ
 recycled and reclaimed materials in their work. "We believe in
 sustaining the lifetime of building materials," says Szepanek, who
 uses scraps of rare antique Japanese country textiles, most of which
 has been in constant use for hundreds of years, to create his quiet
 but complex quilts, rugs, and bed coverlets (\$850-\$2,500). "There is
 still so much life and character in these centuries-old fabrics, it's a
 shame not to make use of them." Joyau's rustic furniture uses
 reclaimed construction timber (the mosaic "End Grain Screen,"
 above, \$2,000 per panel, is made from 19th-century southern yellow
 pine). Both artists' works are available through Donna Karan,
 819 Madison Avenue, NYC, 212-861-1001, or by appointment at
 20 Van Dam, 20 Van Dam Street, Brooklyn, 718-599-2559.



DESIGN

A SHARED VISION

The artists of Sri and 20 Van Dam celebrate ordinary materials that can be transformed into **extraordinary objects**. Rural style with an urban edge, France meets Japan—all in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. By Mary Trasko

WALKING THROUGH THE BROOKLYN LOFT SHARED by artists Stephen Szczepanek and Andre Joyau, one sees textiles and furniture that look like the products of a seamless collaboration. In Joyau's wood shop, he transforms a rough-hewn log into a sleek, modern chair. Upstairs, Szczepanek hand-stitches a collage of Japanese country textiles. They work independently, yet their pieces share affinities of aesthetic and intention. "Their creations work beautifully within Donna's concept of Urban Zen—hand-made pieces by artisans that emphasize tranquility and an elegance that is organic," says Bibi Monnahan, creative director of the Donna Karan store on Madison Avenue, which showcases both of their work. "We want people to notice a wood grain, a texture," says Joyau.

Szczepanek named his company Sri after the Hindu goddess of abundance who symbolizes richness in all forms, while Joyau creates furniture and lighting designs under the label 20 Van Dam, the address of his building in Greenpoint. His refined yet profoundly simple forms strike a chord at a time when people seek to surround themselves with fewer, more meaningful objects. Szczepanek, an artist and former curator, discovered Japanese rural textiles a few years ago, and they sparked an entirely new direction in his art-making. For years he traveled through Asia, developing a passion for textile traditions, but when he first saw the heavily patched indigo fragments—each a hand-woven document of life in early-20th-century Japan—he had an epiphany. "What attracts me is the unselfconsciousness of these patchworks. They are devoid of ego, which contrasts with the fashion and contemporary art worlds," he says.

Some pieces are scraps, like a farmer's jacket that was

patched and re-patched. Szczepanek sews the textiles into artworks that can be hung or used as floor or bed coverings.

"It takes an artist of Stephen's sensitivity to recognize the beauty in these textiles," notes Jan Lee, owner of Sinotique, a New York gallery specializing in art and objects from Asia. "They represent a window into how a culture evolved."

"This piece has qualities of a Rothko, the stillness, the way it draws you in," muses Lou Marotta as he gazes at one of Sri's sparer indigo wall-hangings. Marotta has given over a substantial area within his eponymous NYC gallery to works by Szczepanek and Joyau. "And Andre's work is so natural. You can see it came from a tree. His pieces are reminiscent of Adirondack furniture or tramp art, yet totally modern."

Joyau recognizes the similarity of the two artists' work. "We both take something that would have gone to waste and give it a new life, new dignity," Joyau grew up in France, where his family constructed its own work implements. "I come from a farm where we had to make everything. I see beauty in materials that would otherwise go for firewood." A self-taught sculptor and woodworker, he first exhibited his sculpture in Paris, and all the elements of the furniture, including the forged metal hardware for cabinets and lighting, he handcrafts. Billie Tsien of Todd Williams Billie Tsien & Associates Architects has long been an admirer of his work. "He's the kind of person who takes any sort of craft and investigates it until he's mastered it."

"I think we're both interested in making something that has a simple, refined beauty," Szczepanek says. It has something to do with the pleasure of being surrounded by objects of fine proportion. We are taking material that is disregarded and transforming it into something beautiful. ■



From left: Artists Stephen Szczepanek and Andre Joyau stand before a stunning sampling of their handiwork.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY YOUNG-JAE SON

34 CITY

EXHIBIT 2



PREVIOUS PAGES: A CHAIR AND OTTOMAN MADE BY ANDRE SIT IN THE MAIN STUDIO AREA. THE WALLS WERE DEMOLISHED - THE BEAM IS PURELY FUNCTIONAL, ALTHOUGH IT FITS IN WITH ANDRE'S AESTHETIC. THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A SCULPTURAL PIECE OF RAW WOOD STANDS BY AN INDUSTRIAL METAL DOOR; STEPHEN'S TEXTILE HANGINGS ARE MADE

FROM REWORKED BAST-FIBRE KIMONO FABRIC; THE PANELS ON THE KITCHEN CUPBOARDS ARE COPPER TREATED WITH ACID; ANDRE'S COFFEE TABLE WAS PUT TOGETHER FROM THE BEAMS OF DEMOLISHED-HOUSES. OPPOSITE: SLICED BEAM ENDS ARE PILED ON TOP OF ANDRE'S EXTENDING DESK - 'THE IDEA IS TO HAVE WOOD WITH A LOT OF DEFECTS,' HE SAYS



NEW YORK SPACES 40

material things

Old wood makes good

Reclaimed, it goes from cast-off to cutting-edge







1 Hudson Furniture's B Base table features a solid claro walnut slab crafted from a fallen or damaged tree and placed atop curved oxidized iron supports. Sizing, stains and finishes are customizable. Pricing available upon request.

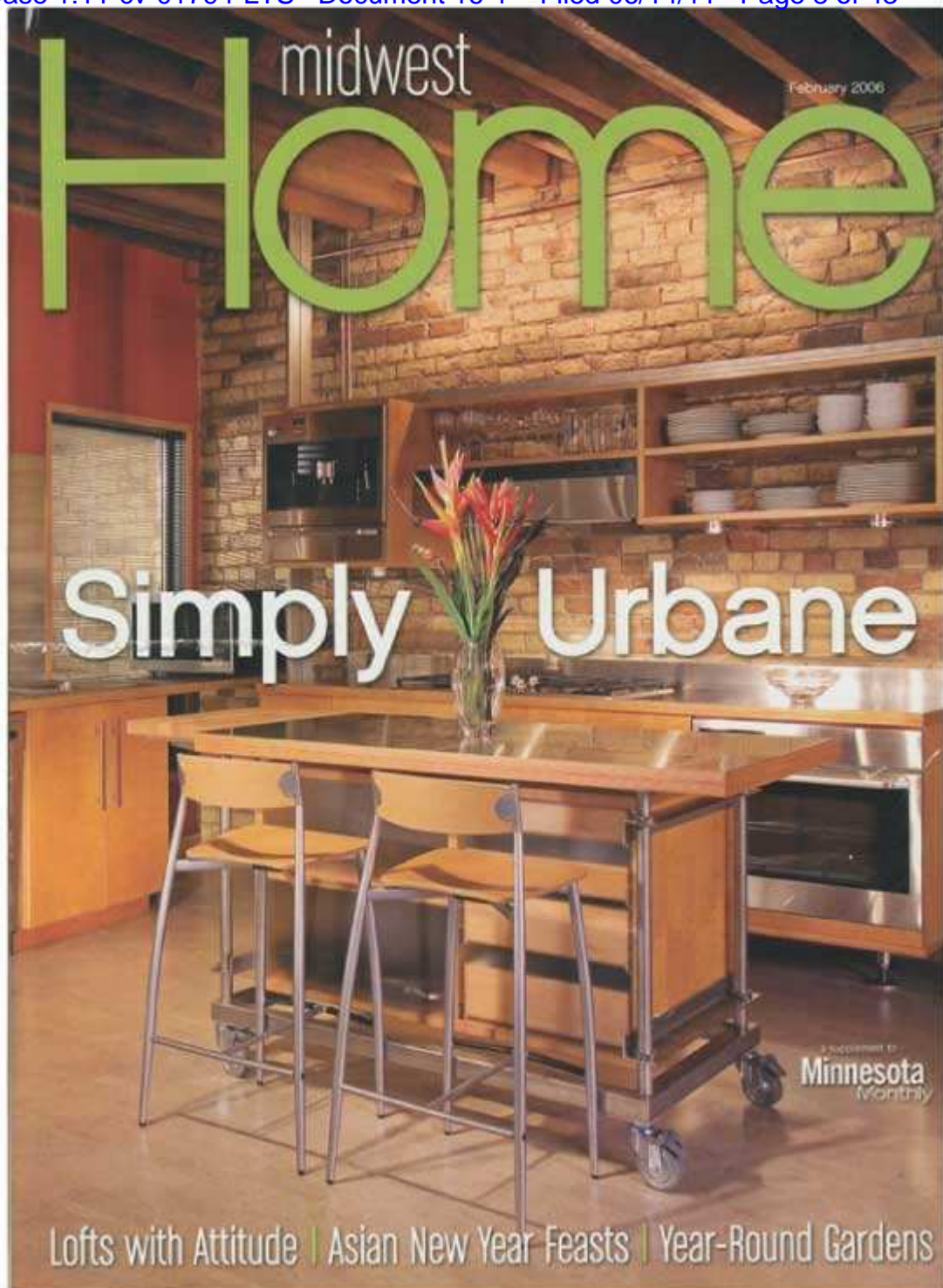
2 Metatone Studio's Zulu hanging light, \$400, is designed to project a symmetrical pattern onto walls. It's crafted from recycled crate wood and measures 24 inches tall by 14 inches wide.

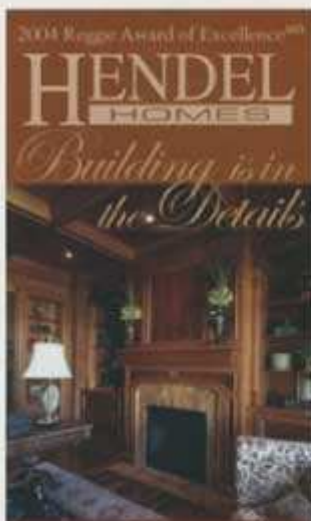
3 From Brazilian designer Carlos Moser's Atelier collection, the Sabre easy chair, \$7,525, has a low stance. It's available in a variety of salvaged woods, with fabric or leather upholstery.

4 The Endgrain screen by Andre Joyke, \$2,280, is constructed of reclaimed wood remnants and off-cuts in an ebonized cherry frame with leather hinges. Each panel is 6 feet tall and 27 inches wide.

5 Made by nature and finished by artisan Alon Langotsky, Chota's solid wood lounge, \$30,000, is 94 inches long. It's carved from the root of an ancient Japanese tree that otherwise would have been discarded. The one-of-a-kind piece has a natural shettac finish.

6 Crafted from an assortment of reclaimed woods, SMC Furnishings' "nd" stool, \$500, is available in combinations of walnut, wenge, heart pine, cherry, maple, white pine and padauk. It stands 14 inches tall.





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22 MIDWEST HOME February 2006

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New Store, Old Wood

Reclaimed wood from decrepit warehouses and factories stars in the stylish furnishings of André Joyau, coming soon to Minneapolis. In early March, Joyau, long a fixture in the New York design scene, will open his first outpost showroom in the Warehouse District. His extensive, modernist collection includes seating, beds, tables, credenzas, chandeliers, and children's furniture. Joyau is known for using burl—knotty or uniquely marked tree outgrowths—to make spare-looking pieces with old-school joinery methods. His eponymous, 1,000-square-foot Minneapolis showroom will be in the Tower Lofts building, 700 Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-236-9450, www.andrejoyau.com.

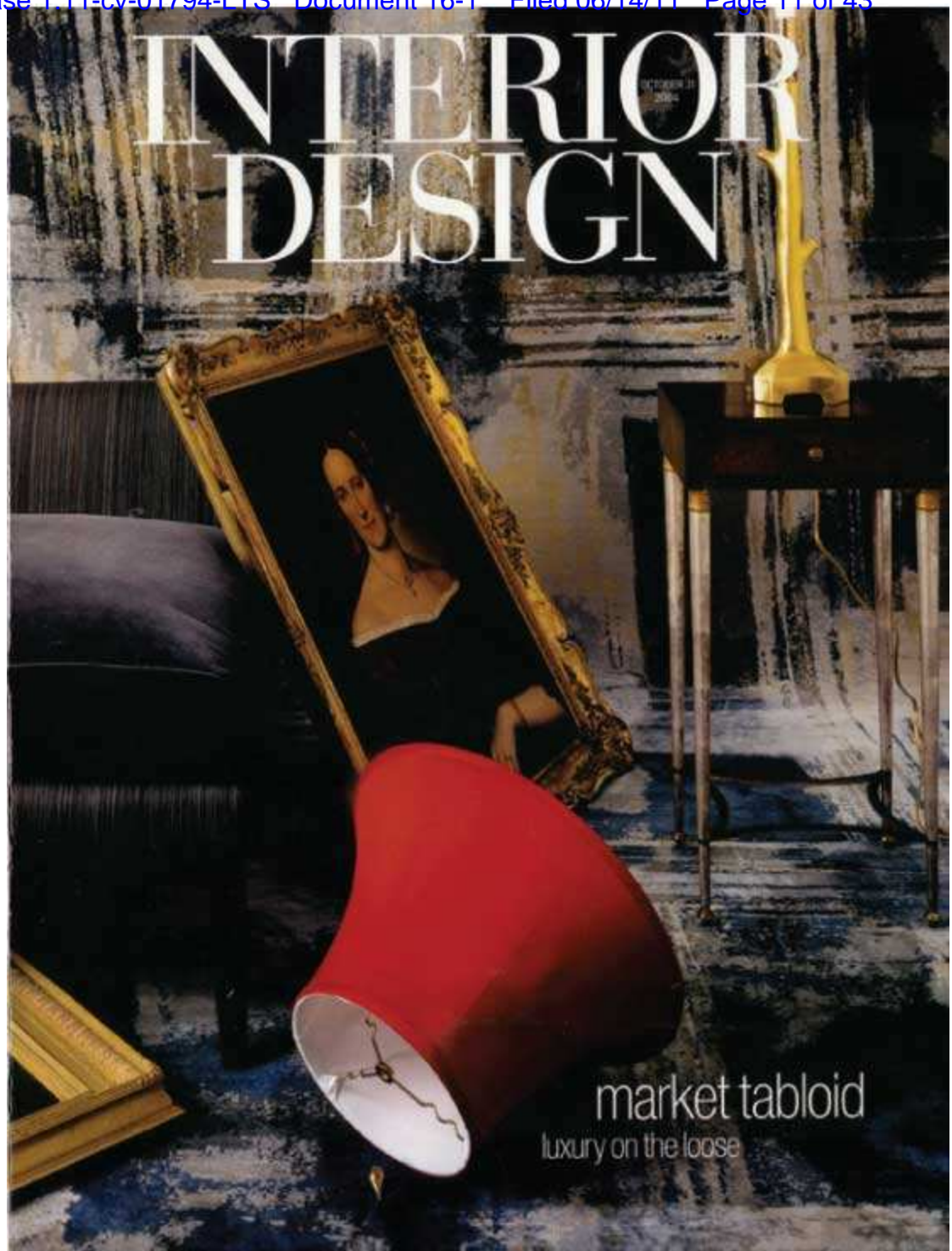
Winter Reads

Cold-weather gardens can be magical places, filled with texture, shape, and even flowers (see page 66 for proof). *Wonders of the Winter Landscape* by Vincent Simeone (Ball Publishing, 2005) will get you started on creating your own lively garden in the deadest of months. Simeone, a New York horticulturalist, includes tips on the best winter plants in six categories: bark, flowers, berries, deciduous trees, broadleaf evergreens, and conifers. • Chatty and opinionated, *Best Furniture Buying Tips Ever!* (House of Collectibles, 2005) will equip you with an arsenal of shopping information. Author Jennifer Litwin, a *Consumer Digest* furniture reporter, demystifies the confusing furnishings world, covering everything from quality construction methods to pushy salespeople. Did you know, for example, that good quality couches have cushions that bounce back after you sit on them? Or that you should set a furniture budget upfront—and agree on a flat commission rate—when you hire an interior designer? • With its text-heavy, academic tone, *Beyond the Bungalow* (Gibbs Smith, Publisher, 2005) is aimed at true fans of the Craftman style. Author Paul Duchacheier, a historic preservationist, argues that all the hoopla over the compact bungalow has given short shrift to larger Arts & Crafts homes of equal importance. Citing several local examples—including the Glensheen Mansion in Duluth and the Purcell-Cutts House in Minneapolis—and using some 150 full-color photographs, he traces the history of the Arts & Crafts movement while detailing its more grandiose representatives.



TOP TO BOTTOM: PHOTOS COURTESY OF HENDEL HOMES; JOYAU AND THE 'MANSION' PHOTOS

[illegible]



furniture

André Joyau

Art stylishly imitates life in this designer's polished steel table with walnut legs. A rural Frenchman who moved to New York City, he blends French Country with the latest in Brooklyn urban-industrial chic. Handmade of walnut, the table's disorganized-yet-architectural legs are designed to exude an air of disorder. 20 Van Dam Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222; 718-963-3616, [circle 443](#)



Nucraft Furniture Company

For high-powered summits or informal meetings that need a bit of pizzazz, the Mural wall system supports an array of plasma screens, projection systems, and computers. Elegantly concealed wires are easily accessed in reconfigurable channels and columns. Optional sconces, whiteboards, and shelving are available. Standard finishes offered include maple, cherry, walnut, or oak, in 17 stains; custom finishes may be ordered as well. 9151 West River Drive, Comstock Park, MI 49321; 677-492-7226, [nucraft.com](#); [circle 444](#)

Tuell+Reynolds

Elegant in proportion and attitude, the Shinku table's cast-bronze tiers create a big burst of energy for this small piece. Iron legs with a patina bronze top help achieve this fetching table's lean, and clean look. 52 Front Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448; 707-431-0521, [tuelreynolds.com](#); [circle 448](#)



Donghia

Sick of media saturation? *Escape* relieves the pressure. Large enough to house giant plasma monitors, these units also feature cabinets with glass-paneled sides, wire-management systems, and clear-glass-fronted drawers that allow remote-control signals through. This modern classic is available in two sizes and finishes, and is made of limed or pickled oak with brushed-nickel or brass hardware. 485 Broadway, New York, NY 10013; 800-366-4442; [donghia.com](#); [circle 445](#)



Baronet

Bresilia 80 case goods and furniture—as hot as South America in summer—are made from solid maple with birch veneer. The multiple-drawer dressers, audio bookcases, media stands, night tables, and platform bed in this collection feature mortise-and-tenon and dovetail joints, leveling feet, and cast-metal handles. Choose from chocolate finish on maple or anthracite finish. 224 Rue Baronet, C.P. 580, Sainte-Marie, Quebec, Canada G6E 3B8; 418-387-5431; [baronet.ca](#); [circle 447](#)



John Boone

The breathtaking *Stanley* pedestal dining table is a clean and expansive addition to the Lockwood/Boone collection. This attention-grabbing table features a box-matched veneer top and base, sunburst border, and veneer sabre legs, all in zebra-wood, as well as black lacquer detailing. Custom sizes and finishes are also available. 1059 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10021; 212-758-0512; [johnbooneinc.com](#); [circle 446](#)

HOUSE & GARDEN

DESIGN TO INSPIRE



1 Fur is a staple of the log cabin. Guilt-free faux throws, from top: Pottery Barn's Plush Fur throw in white, \$149; Pierre Frey's Loup et Vison in Chinchilla; Dior Collection Maison's Denim and Faux Fur blanket, \$1,090. 2 Christian Astuguevielle gives straightforward furniture a whimsical spin with a chestnut and rope Saulorne chair, through Holly Hunt, New York. 10 Trophies dinner plate by Pierre Frey. 11 André Joyau's wooden Forest table, \$360, Heptagon Creations, Brooklyn, NY. 12 Open up to the outdoors: Rocky Mountain Hardware's Entry Mortise lock set, \$764. 13 An early-1900s wool trade blanket, \$1,600, from Woodard & Greenstein, NYC. New, authentic Pendleton wool blankets may be purchased from Pendleton, \$75 to \$160. 14 Alpine spirit, a vintage French 1960s ski poster, \$600, from the Ross Group, Westport, CT. Or sample Christie's annual vintage ski art auction in London, set for February 2003. Sources, see back of book.

—PRODUCED BY THADDEUS KROMELIS

Alpine update: new





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Wood Works

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Seating that goes with the grain

1. Cocoon reclaimed maple chair with wool-nylon in Dover by André Joyau, ☎ +1 318-963-2616, andregoyau.com, circle 319

2. Swallowtail chair with walnut frame and cherry seat in hand-rubbed oil finish by Brian Fireman Design.

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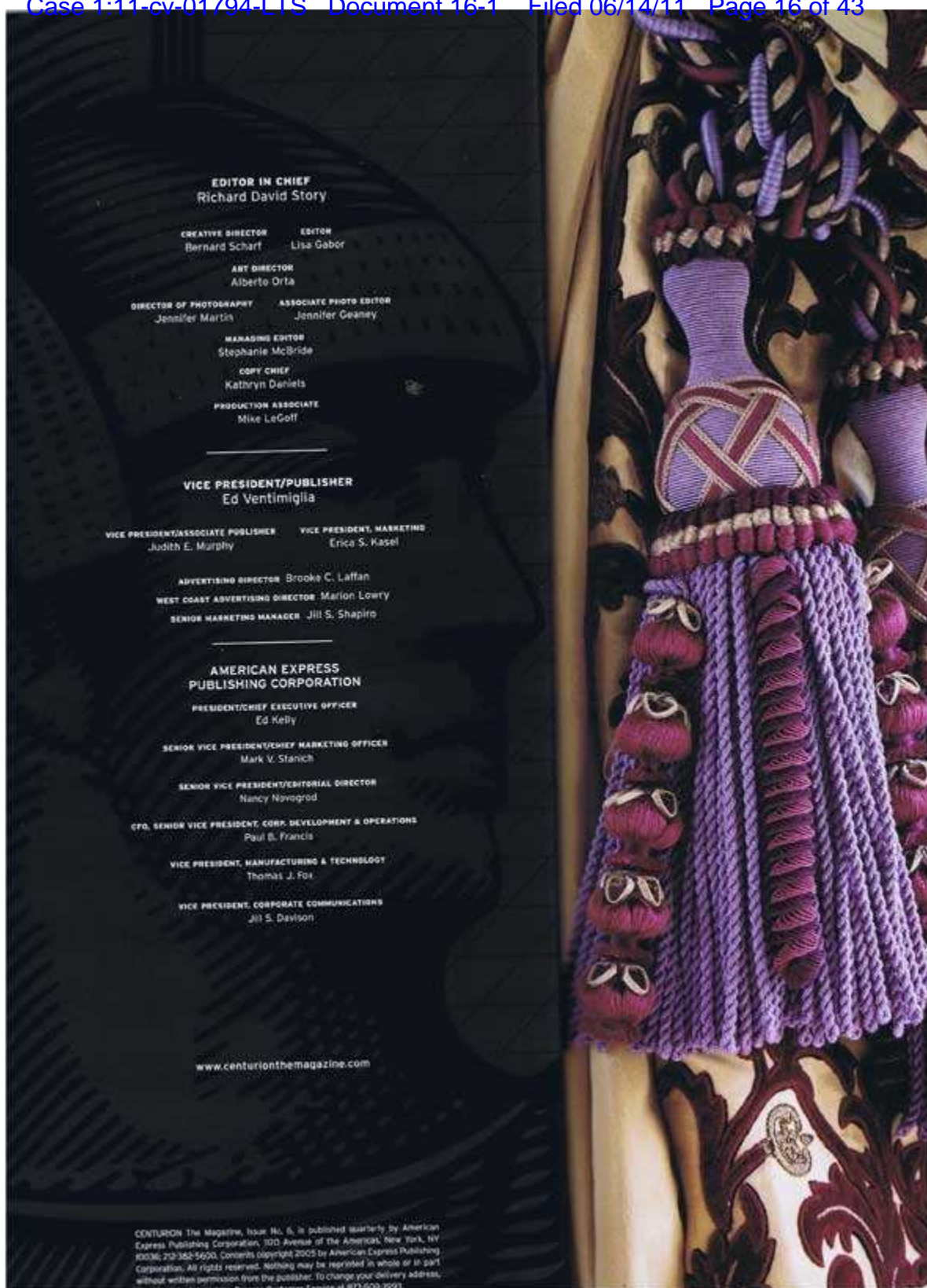
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The Child's Bed

Bonnie Young has climbed the highest mountains of Tibet and scoured the seediest streets of Nepal in her quest for inspirational and highly unusual design. Along the way, she published a book of photographs (*Colors of the Vanishing Tribes*) and curated exhibitions on jewelry and clothing from around the world. As impressive as this may be, Young's daughter, Celia, wasn't buying. What the four-year-old absolutely had to have was a bed just like the princesses Disney-canopy and all. So began one of the most curious mother-daughter collaborations: In this very modern riff on a Chinese opium bed, mahogany gets replaced with white oak, snarling dragons give way to hand-carved flowers, and drawers, which would have been stuffed with hashish and hookahs, now hold tutus and teddy bears. What more could a little girl want? An organic custom mattress to match. All beds are handcrafted and made in the Brooklyn workshop of artisan André Joyau, \$12,000. Interested Centurion members should contact Bonnie Young at 347-306-3004.

Photograph by David A. Land

EXHIBIT 3



EXHIBIT 4



EXHIBIT 5



EXHIBIT 6



EXHIBIT 7



EXHIBIT 8



EXHIBIT 9



EXHIBIT 10





EXHIBIT 12



EXHIBIT 13



EXHIBIT 14



EXHIBIT 15

